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A BRIEF

OF

United States History

✓
L. A. WIRICK.



History is not chronology, nor is it biography ; but,
building upon chronology and biography,
it seeks to unfold the philosophy
of human development.

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BROOKFIELD, MO.

PREFACE.

IN casting about for a title for this little book, I lit upon the lawyers' word "Brief," which means, says Webster "a concise statement of a case or a statement of the heads of a discourse." That is what I have tried to make of these topics and notes on the history of our country.

The study of history is answering the five questions, what, who, where, when, why, "and the last is the greatest of these." To illustrate, take the bare statement "One stormy day in the autumn of 1620, the Mayflower, with a band of a hundred pilgrims, came to anchor in Cape Cod harbor." What detail of the Mayflower voyage makes it stand for so much in our history? Not that it was 1620, nor that it was Cape Cod harbor, even though a different date or a different place would have caused a different course of subsequent events; not even that it was the pilgrims who came, except so far as we can read their character

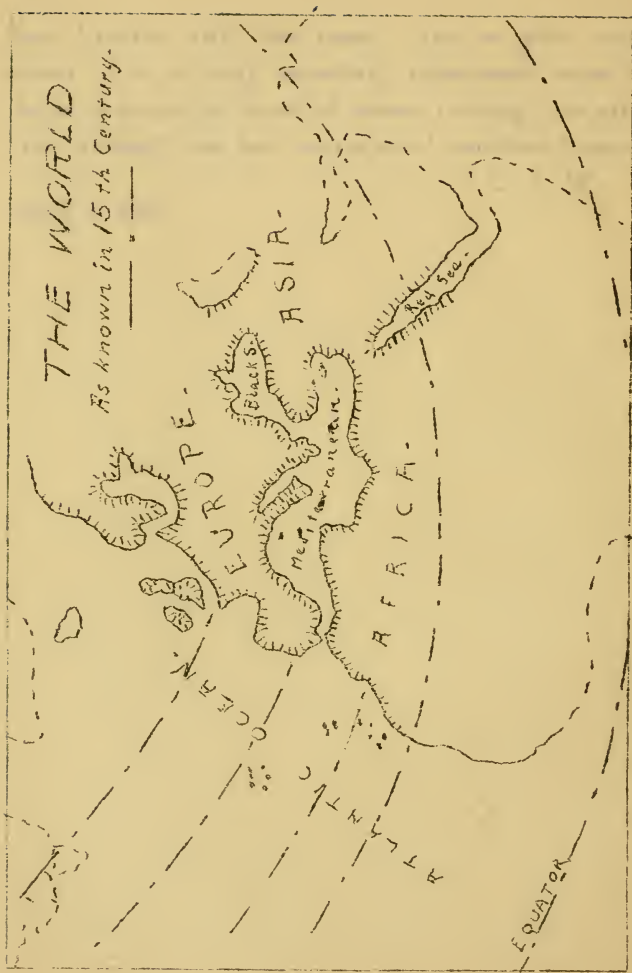
and discover why they came. And so with every event: it is of only secondary importance unless it helps us to see the chain of causes, running, link after link, through the four centuries of American history.

L. A. W.

April 3, 1896.

THE WORLD

As known in 15th Century.



A BRIEF OF

United States History

Discovery of the New World.

THE WORLD OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

1. The Mediterranean Sea,—“In the midst of the lands.”

2. Venice.—Trade with the east by way of Alexandria and the Red Sea.

3. Genoa.—Trade with the east by way of Constantinople, Black Sea and caravan routes to the Persian Gulf and India.

4. Portugal.—“The Hero Nation.”

5. Spain.—Moorish invasion and conquest; union of Castile, Leon and Arragon under Ferdinand and Isabella; fall of Granada (1492).

6. France.

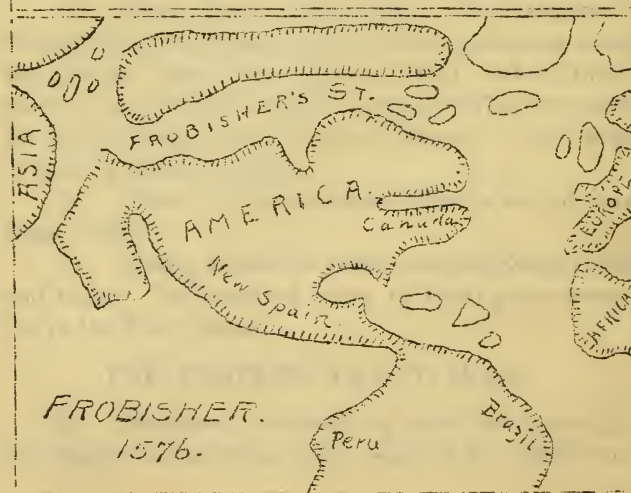
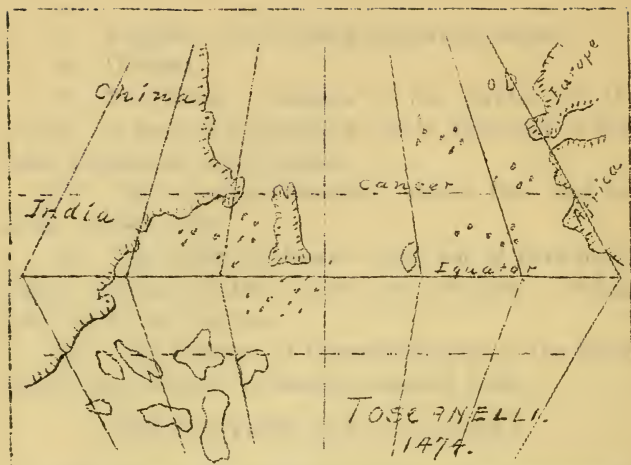
7. England—the leading protestant nation.
8. Holland.
9. The Norse “vikings” —the pirates of the “viks,” or bays of Scandinavia; their discovery of Iceland, Greenland and Vinland.
10. The Venetian traveller, Marco Polo and his book. (1260–1295.)
11. The Atlantic Ocean—“the sea of darkness;” Canary Islands (1344); Azores and Madeiras; African coast as far as Cap Nun.
12. The capture of Constantinople by the Turks (1453) and downfall of Genoese eastern trade.

THE EASTERN WAY TO INDIA.

13. Prince Henry of Portugal, “the Navigator;” the terrors of the equator; Portuguese exploration along the African coast; Cape Blanco (1441); Verde (1445); Sierra Leone (1462); equator crossed (1471); Fernando Po (1474); Congo (1484); Cape of Storms, “Good Hope of finding India” (1487).
14. Vasco da Gama reached India by way of Good Hope (1498).
15. Cabral, bound for India, reached Brazil (1500) and India. The hundred years of Portuguese dominion in the East Indies.

THE WESTERN WAY TO INDIA.

16. Columbus.—Genoese by birth [see 3 and 12]; Portuguese by adoption [13]; Spanish by commission.



As a Portuguese navigator made a voyage to Iceland (1477) [9]; along the African coast; read Marco Polo's book [10] and studied Toscanelli's map. "The crazy dream he hawked about Europe for twenty years—a route to India by sailing west;" his voyage and discovery. What he proved: that land could be reached by sailing west. What he did not prove: that the earth is round or that India was only 3,000 or 4,000 miles west of Spain.

17. The new lands of the world divided by the Pope between Spain and Portugal by the line 370 leagues west of the Azores (1493).

18. The hundred years of Spanish ascendancy in the west, ending with the defeat of the Great Armada (1588).

19. The new land not India but supposed to be a narrow line of Islands. The search for a way through or around them.

20. Balboa (1513) crossed the isthmus, discovered the "South Sea" and modestly claimed for Spain all the lands whose shores it washed.

21. Magellan (1520–21) passed the straits and crossed the Pacific. One of his ships and 18 men circumnavigated the globe, thus demonstrating its roundness.

22. Demand of France to be shown "that clause in the will of Father Adam that divides the earth between the Spanish and Portuguese and excludes the French."

23. Cartier (1535) discovered the St. Lawrence.

24. Protestant England, ignoring the Pope's decree, tries to find a western way to India. The voyages of Frobisher (1576), Drake (1577).

25. Spain, France, England and Holland searching for a way through the supposed islands barring the way to India. The search continued into the seventeenth century. Instructions to the London Company (1606) [34] to explore all rivers and inlets "to find a short and easy way to the South Sea." Hudson's discovery of Hudson river (1609) [45] and Hudson bay (1610). LaSalle's settlement at La Chine—"China"—on the St. Lawrence (1666).

26. The idea gradually forcing its way that the new land was a vast continent and as such worthy of conquest and settlement. DeSoto's explorations (1540-42). Coronado's explorations (1540-42).

The Conquest of the Continent.

SPANISH ACQUISITIONS.

27. Conquest of Hayti (1495) and its subsequent depopulation. Cuba (1511), Mexico (1521), Peru (1531).

28. Permanent settlements made at Buenos Ayers (1535), Santiago (1541), St. Augustine (1565), Santa Fe (1585).

29. The nine Spanish provinces—Mexico, Peru, New Granada, LaPlata; Yucatan, Gautemala, Chili, Venezuela, Cuba.

30. The centuries of Spanish rapacity, treachery and cruelty. The cession of western Hayti to France (Peace of Ryswick, 1697), the first break in the unity of Spanish America. Cuba the last Spanish American possession [194].

FRENCH ACQUISITIONS.

31. Colony at Quebec (1608). Settlements in Acadia (1610). Previous attempts at Port Royal 1562), St. Augustine (1564), Acadia (1604).

32. Explorations of Joliet and Marquette (1673), LaSalle (1679-82), Hennepin (1680).

ENGLISH COMMERCIAL SETTLEMENTS.

33. Raleigh's charter and attempts to plant colonies (1584-7).

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| ELIZABETH, 1558-1603 |
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34. The Virginia company chartered (1606). The two divisions, London company and Plymouth company. The London company's colony at Jamestown (1607). A new charter (1609).

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| JAMES I., 1603-1625 |
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35. Grant to Gorges and Mason (1623) and settlements at Dover and Portsmouth.

36. "The Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England" (1629).

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| CHARLES I., 1625-1649 |
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37. Grants to the Clarendon company (1663-5). Locke and his "Grand Model."

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| CHARLES II., 1650-1685 |
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ENGLISH EMIGRATION FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

38. The Separatists—"Pilgrims." Their flight to Holland.

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| JAMES I., 1603-1625 |
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Voyage to America (1620) with help of an English company. Settlement at Plymouth in the grant of the Plymouth Virginia company

39. The Puritans at Salem (1628).

40. Catholics settled along the Chesapeake. Grant to Calvert.

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| CHARLES I., 1625-1649 |
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41. Roger Williams banished from Massachusetts.

Providence founded (1636). Charter for Rhode Island obtained (1644) from Parliament.

42. Emigrants from Massachusetts settled in Connecticut (1635-6). Charter obtained from the king (1662).

43. Wm. Penn and his "Holy Experiment" (1682). Treaty with the Indians. Founding of Philadelphia (1683).

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| CHARLES II. |
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| 1660-1685 |
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44. Oglethorp (1733).

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| GEORGE II. |
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| 1727-1760 |
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DUTCH SETTLEMENTS.

45. New Amsterdam (1609).

SWEDISH SETTLEMENTS.

46. New Sweden (1638).

English Supremacy.

THE EXTINCTION OF DUTCH AND SWEDISH CLAIMS.

47. Swedish settlements on the Delaware taken by the Dutch (1654).

48. New Amsterdam surrendered to the English (1664); retaken by the Dutch (1673). All Dutch possessions transferred to England (1674).

THE DRIFT OF EUROPEAN WARS.

49. The English Revolution of 1688; Protestant English against the Jacobites and French. Capture of Port Royal and Acadia by a force from New England. Their return to France by the terms of peace.

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| WILLIAM AND MARY. 1689-1702 |
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50. The war of the Spanish succession; England, Holland and Germany against France and Spain (1702-13). Capture of Port Royal (Annapolis) and part of Acadia (Nova Scotia).

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| ANNE, 1702-1714 |
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51. The war of the Austrian succession; England, Holland and Austria against France, Spain and Prussia (1741-49).

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| GEORGE II, 1727-1760 |
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Capture of Louisburg. Its return to France in exchange for Madras, India, by the terms of peace.

THE DOWNFALL OF FRENCH DOMINION IN AMERICA.

52. The extent and situation of English settlements and French trading-posts. The conflicting territorial claims.

53. The Ohio company (1748). New French forts at Presque Isle (Erie, Pa.) (1753), Le Boeuf (LeBoeuf, Pa.) (1753), Venango (Franklin, Pa.) (1753), Du Quesne (Pittsburg) (1754).

54. The French line of occupation. Quebec, the key to the French possessions. Louisburg, protecting the St. Lawrence; Ticonderoga and Crown Point on the Champlain route to Quebec; Ft. Niagara, the out-fitting point for the upper lakes; Ft. Du Quesne controlling the middle west.

55. The English situation. Congress at Albany; Franklin's plan of union. The English outposts: Halifax, Ft. Wm. Henry, Ft. Edward, Oswego, Ft. Cumberland.

56. Braddock's expedition against Ft. Du Quesne and his defeat. The taking of Acadia and the deportation and dispersal of the Acadians.

57. Grand strategem of the war. Louisburg taken (1758), Ft.

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| GEORGE II, 1727-1760 |
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Du Quesne (Ft. Pitt) (1758), Niagara (1758), Ticonderoga and Crown Point (1759).

58. Capture of Quebec (1759).

59. Treaty of Paris (1763).

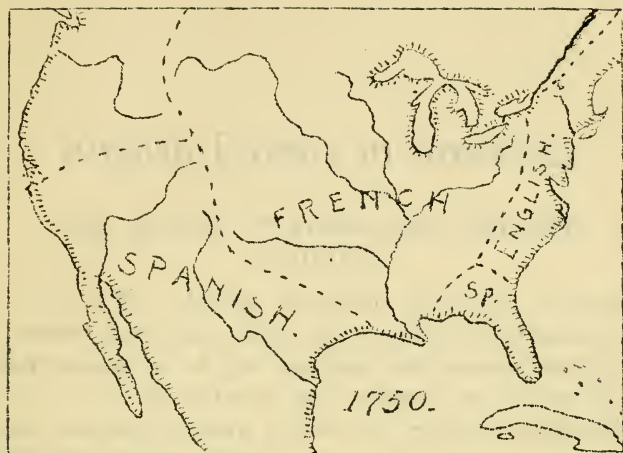
Supremacy of English in America,

—Protestant instead of Catholic, Anglo-Saxon instead of Latin.

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| GEORGE III, |
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| 1760-1820 |
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60. Transfers of territory (1763): England received from France all territory east of Mississippi river except city and district of New Orleans, and relinquished to France all claim to territory west of the Mississippi river; England received from Spain, Florida in exchange for Havana; France transferred to Spain by a secret treaty, all territory west of Mississippi river under the name of Louisiana.



English Empire in America.

THE RIGHTS OF FREE-BORN ENGLISH SUBJECTS.

61. The charter provision that the colonists
“should have and enjoy all the liberties, franchises
and immunities of free denizens and natural subjects
* * * to all intents and purposes as if they had
been abiding and born in this our realm of England.”
(Virginia charter, 1609).

62. Virginia House of Bur-
gesses, a representative body.

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| JAMES I, 1603-1625 Divine Right of Kings |
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Berkeley and Bacon's Rebellion.

63. “Mayflower compact.” Massachusetts Bay
colony and their charter. Town meetings, pure de-
mocracy.

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| CHARLES I, 1625-1649 “Petition of Right,” 1628 |
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64. “The Fundamental
Orders of Connecticut.” No
mention made of king or com-
pany.

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| LONG PARLIAMENT, 1640-1653 |
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65. The charter of
Massachusetts revoked.

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| CHARLES II AND JAMES II, 1660-1685 1685-1688 |
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Andros as viceroy of the northern colonies.

66. The colonies considered merely as a source of revenue to the mother country. Trade restrictions as early as 1621. Manufacturing restrictions.

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| Revolution of 1688, WILLIAM AND MARY 1689-1702 Declaration of Rights Bill of Rights, 1689 |
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67. Evasion of navigation laws. Trade with West Indies.

COLONIAL LIFE AND CHARACTER.

68. Population a million, mainly English. Scotch in New Hampshire and North Carolina; Irish, French Huguenots, Swedes; Dutch in New York; Germans in Pennsylvania.

69. Entire separation of church and state only in Rhode Island.

70. Social and industrial life. Slavery in all the colonies. Pillory and stocks. Aristocracy. Patroons in New York.

71. Education. Newspapers. Schools and colleges.

72. Political life. New England town meeting. Virginia county meeting. Republican form of government in Connecticut and Rhode Island. Proprietary government in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware. Royal government in others.

73. The devotion of the colonists to English laws and customs.

TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION.

74. Stamp act (1765). First proposed by Gov. Keith of Pennsylvania in 1739.

GRENVILLE

75. Colonial congress at New York: declaration of rights, petition to king, memorial to parliament.

76. Sons of Liberty and non - importation societies.

BARRE, PITT, BURKE

British merchants and their trade of \$30,000,000 per year. Repeal of the stamp act.

77. Import tax. Board of commissioners. Writs of assistance renewed. Troops sent to New York. Refusal of quarters. Legislature prorogued.

TOWNSHEND

78. Troops sent to Boston. Quartered on the common and in the state house. Boston massacre. Removal of the troops to Castle William. Sam Adams and his committees of correspondence.

NORTH

79. Reduction of taxes. Tea sent to New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Charleston. Boston "Tea party." "The Five Intolerable Acts." Port of Salem open to Boston merchants.

80. Continental congress at Philadelphia: declaration of rights, articles of association, address to the people of Great Britain, memorial to Canada, petition to the king.

81. Lexington, Concord, siege of Boston.

82. Second continental congress at Philadelphia:
Washington commander-in-chief.

83. Bunker Hill. Evacuation of Boston.

84. Declaration of Independence.

“A New Nation, Conceived in Liberty.”

REVOLUTION.

85. Tories and rebels in the colonies: New York the center of Tory sentiment, New England the hot bed of rebellion. Whigs and “Kings Friends” in England.

86. The grand strategem of the war. New York the center of British operations; the loyalist stronghold, cut off New England from the southern colonies, control the Hudson and Champlain route to Canada.

87. Washington’s retreat from Long Island, evacuation of New York, loss of Ft. Washington. Lee’s treason. Washington’s retreat through New Jersey. British advance on Philadelphia checked by the battles at Trenton and Princeton.

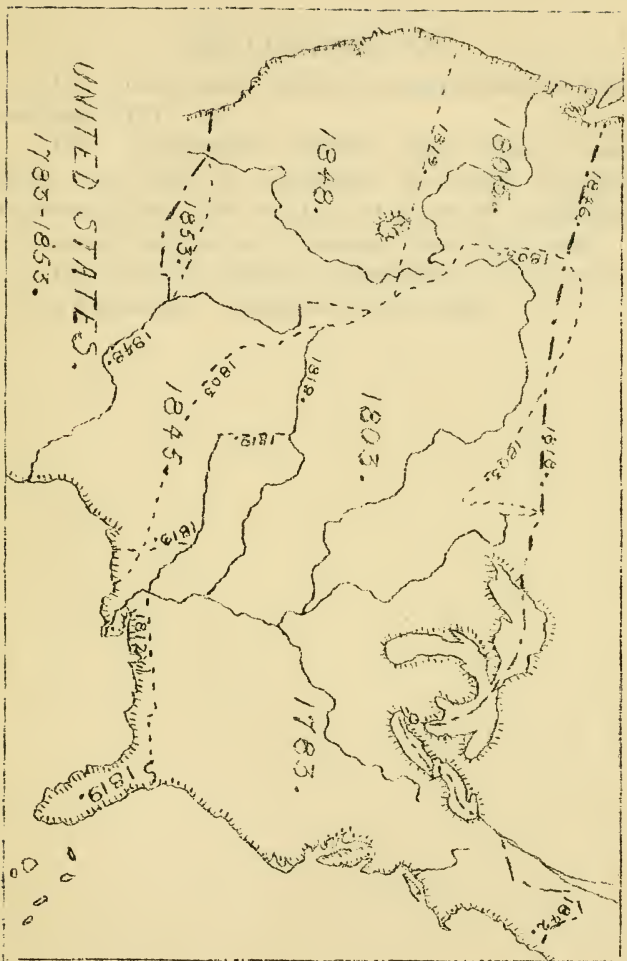
88. British plan of campaign for 1777. Burgoyne’s advance, Ticonderoga and Bennington.

89. Renewed attack toward Philadelphia. Battle of Brandywine. Capture of Philadelphia. Battle of Germantown. Valley Forge.

90. Battles of Saratoga.
91. French recognition and alliance. English overtures for peace.
92. Evacuation of Philadelphia. Battle of Monmouth.
93. Declaration of war by Spain against England (June, 1779). American privateers in the ports of Holland. Armed neutrality of Russia, Denmark and Sweden.
94. Transfer of the war to the south. Capture of Savannah and Charleston. Green's campaign. Cornwallis in Virginia.
95. Occupation of Yorktown. Washington's march to Virginia. French blockading fleet and army. Siege and surrender of Yorktown (Oct. 19, 1781).
96. Situation in England. Resignation of the North ministry. Treaty of Peace, April 19, 1783.

THE CONFEDERATED STATES.

97. The colonies changed to states.
98. Articles of confederation adopted by congress, 1777. In effect when ratified by Maryland, 1781.
99. Conflicting land claims. Grants of New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Virginia. Ordinance of 1787.
100. Import duties levied by each state. Interstate relations.
101. Convention proposed to regulate commerce. Twelve delegates from five states.



UNITED STATES.

1785-1855.

THE CONSTITUTION.

102. Convention called by congress met in Philadelphia (1787).

103. Compromises effected: two houses of congress, one based on population, the other on equal representation; the counting of slaves in estimating population; regulation of commerce and slave trade.

104. The constitution submitted to the states.
“The Federalist.” Ratified by the states.

“An Equal Station Among the Powers of the Earth.”

ORGANIZATION OF THE NATION.

105. The new congress. Election of Washington and Adams. Cabinet appointments.

WASHINGTON,
1789-1797.

106. Financial problems. Assumption of state debts. Tariff. Funding of national debt. Incorporation of United States Bank.

107. Organization of judicial department.

Cotton gin. Admission of Vermont, Kentucky and Tennessee.

108. Party differences. Construction of the constitution. Relations with England and France. “X. Y. Z. papers.”

ADAMS,
1797-1801.

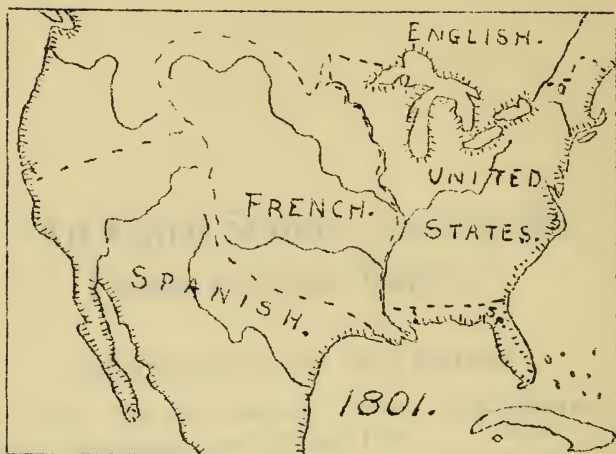
Removal of capital to Washington.

109. Alien and sedition laws. Nullification resolutions by Virginia and Kentucky.

REPUBLICAN SUPREMACY.

110. War with Barbary pirates. Decatur.

JEFFERSON,
1801-1809.



111. Purchase of Louisiana. Explorations of Lewis and Clark.

Fulton's steamboat. Admission of Ohio.

112. War between England and France (Napoleon) and its effect on American commerce. Embargo Act.

113. War with England. Naval battles. Invasion of Canada. Battle of New Orleans.

MADISON,

1809-1817.

Admission of Louisiana and Indiana.

National Development.

ERA OF GOOD FEELING.

114. Political harmony. Disappearance of old issues. Anti-federalist or Republican-Democratic party still in power but “completely federalized” (Josiah Quincy).

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| MONROE, 1817-1825. |
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Admission of Mississippi, Illinois and Alabama.

115. Importance of slavery question. Mason and Dixon line and Ohio river.

116. Missouri Compromise.

Admission of Maine and Missouri.

117. Jackson in Florida. Purchase of Florida, and relinquishment of claims to Texas.

118. System of internal improvements. Cumberland road. Erie canal.

119. Revolt of Spanish-American colonies. The “Holy Alliance” of Russia, Prussia and Austria. Monroe Doctrine.

NEW NATIONAL QUESTIONS.

120. The “Scrub race” for President—election by house of Representatives.

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| ADAMS, 1825-1829. |
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121. Internal improvements. Opposition to the administration. Tariff of 1828.

122. The spoils system. "To the victors belong the spoils of the enemy" (Marcy).

JACKSON,
1829-1837.

123. The United States Bank.

124. Tariff. Nullification by South Carolina.

Industrial progress Railroads, coal, gas, newspapers. Admission of Arkansas and Michigan.

125. The panic of 1837. Paper money, speculation. The sub-treasury system.

VAN BUREN,
1837-1841.

126. Tyler, "the accidental president," a Democrat elected on a Whig ticket.

HARRISON-TYLER
1841-1845.

127. The national bank question. Tyler's vetoes. Resignation of the cabinet.

128. The Ashburton treaty.

Admission of Florida.

Slavery and State Rights.

INTRODUCTION AND GROWTH OF SLAVERY.

129. Slave trade begun by John Hawkins (1562).

130. Slaves in Virginia in 1619; in all the colonies before 1776; gradually abolished in northern colonies.

131. The ordinance of 1787. Slave trade abolished by England in 1789. Compromises in the Constitution.

132. Effect of Whitney's cotton gin.

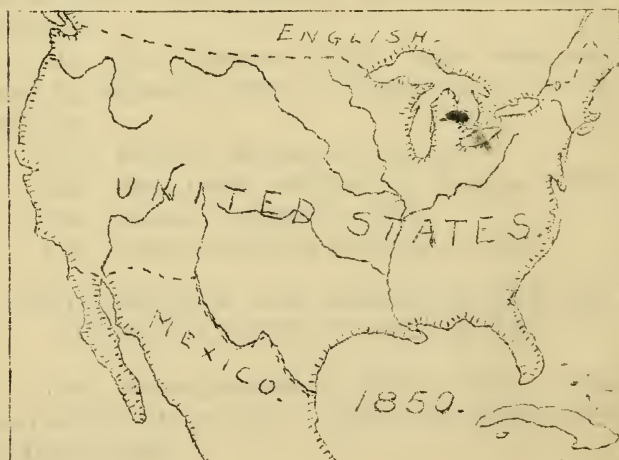
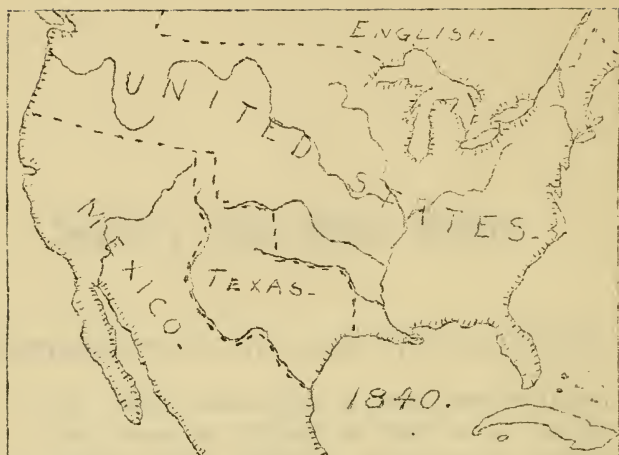
133. Slave trade prohibited by congress (1808).

134. Missouri Compromise [116].

135. Slavery abolished in England (1833).

SOUTHWESTERN AND NORTHWESTERN EXTENSION OF THE UNITED STATES.

136. Slavery abolished in Mexico (1829). American settlements in Texas. Revolt and independence of Texas (1836).



137. Annexation of Texas and dispute as to boundary.

POLK,
1845-1849.

138. Mexican war. Mexican cession.

139. Oregon boundary. "Fifty-four-forty or fight." Treaty of 1846.

Admission of Texas, Iowa and Wisconsin.

THE QUESTION OF SLAVERY EXTENSION.

140. The balance between slave and free states: Mississippi, Alabama—Indiana, Illinois; Missouri—Maine; Arkansas—Michigan; Florida, Texas—Iowa, Wisconsin.

Discovery of gold in California.

141. The compromise of 1850: California free, Texas claims paid by general government, New Mexico and Utah organized as territories, slavery prohibited in District of Columbia, fugitive slave law passed.

TAYLOR-FILLMORE,
1849-1853.

Admission of California Gadsden purchase.

142. Douglas' Kansas-Nebraska Bill: "Squatter Sovereignty;" repeal of Missouri compromise.

PIERCE,
1853-1857.

143. Border warfare in Kansas. Dred Scott decision.

BUCHANAN,
1857-1861.

ANTI-SLAVERY AGITATION.

144. The abolitionists. Garrison and "The Liberator." Phillips. Parker. Adams as congressman and the slavery petitions.

145. The "Free Soilers."

STATE RIGHTS.

146. The opposite views concerning federal supremacy, centralization, strict construction [103].

147. The Virginia and Kentucky resolutions concerning alien and sedition laws [109].

148. The Hartford convention concerning the war with England [113].

149. South Carolina nullification concerning the tariff [124].

SECESSION.

150. Union of freesoilers and anti-slavery whigs and anti-slavery democrats, forming the republican party. Their attitude toward slavery.

BUCHANAN,
1857-1861.

Admission of Minnesota and Oregon.

151. Resumption of slave trade. Lecompton constitution in Kansas. John Brown.

152. Election of Lincoln. Secession of seven "cotton states." Organization of the so-called "Confederate States."

Admission of Kansas.

CIVIL WAR.

153. Seizure of forts and supplies by state governments.

LINCOLN,
1861-1865.

154. Firing on Sumter. Lincoln's call for troops. Massing of troops at Washington. Mob at Baltimore.

155. Secession of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas.

156. Border States: Maryland; West Virginia—Phillipi and King's Mountain; Kentucky and her neutrality; Missouri—Blair and Lyon, Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge.

157. The line of confederate occupation through Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri.

158. The blockade of southern ports—Fortress Monroe, Ft. Pickens (Pensacola, Fla.), Key West and Tortugas held by federal forces.

159. Bull Run.

160. Mason and Slidell. Trent affair.

161. First confederate line in the west, Cumberland Gap to Columbus.

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| 1862. |
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Ft. Henry (Feb. 6). Ft. Donelson (Feb. 16).

162. Naval affairs: Monitor and Merrimac (Mar. 9), blockade, capture of New Orleans (Apr. 25).

163. Peninsular campaign; second Bull Run (Aug. 29). Lee's invasion of Maryland; Antietam (Sept. 17).

164. Second confederate line in the west, Chattanooga to Memphis. Shiloh (Apr. 6), Corinth (Oct. 3, 4).

165. Bragg's invasion of Kentucky; Stone River (Dec. 31).

Admission of West Virginia.

166. Emancipation of slaves as a war measure.

167. Vicksburg campaign.

168. Fredricksburg (Dec. 13, '62).

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| 1863. |
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Chancellorsville (May 1-4). Gettysburg (July 1-3).

169. Chattanooga campaign.

170. Grant's Virginia campaign.

1864.

Admission of Nevada.

171. Completion of the blockade: Ft. Wagner (Charleston), Mobile, Wilmington. Confederate privateers.

172. Advance on Atlanta. Hood's Tennessee campaign.

173. Sherman's march to the sea. March northward, Goldsboro.

1865.

174. Final Virginia campaign.

The Indestructible Union.

RECONSTRUCTION.

175. Assassination of Lincoln.

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| LINCOLN-JOHNSON 1865-1869. |
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176. Johnson's policy of reconstruction.
177. Congressional policy of reconstruction.
178. Amendments to the constitution.
- Admission of Nebraska. Purchase of Alaska.
179. Impeachment of President Johnson.
180. "Carpet baggers." Dom-
inance of negro votes. "Ku Klux
Klan."

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| GRANT. 1869-1877. |
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181. Alabama claims [171], Geneva award.
182. Panic of 1873.
- Admission of Colorado. Centennial exhibition.
183. Election of 1876. Electoral Commission.

ECONOMIC PROGRESS.

184. National debt. Greenbacks. Depreciation.
185. Demonetization of silver.
Resumption of specie payment. Bland
bill.

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| HAYES, 1877-1881. |
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186. Assassination of President Garfield.

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| GARFIELD-ARTHUR 1881-1885. |
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187. Civil service reform.

188. Chinese immigration.

189. Mills bill (1888). McKinley bill (1890). Wilson bill (1894).

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| CLEVELAND, 1885-1889. |
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Admission of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Washington.

190. Pan-American Congress.

191. Sherman Act (1890).

Admission of Idaho and Wyoming

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| HARRISON, 1889-1893. |
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192. Foreign complications: Italy, Chili, Behring Sea, Hawaii.

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| CLEVELAND, 1893-1897. |
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193. Depression of 1893. Bimetallism. Free coinage of silver.

Admission of Utah.

194. Cuban insurrection. The Monroe doctrine applied to Venezuelan boundary dispute; the Venezuelan commission.

APPENDIX.

THE WORLD OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

Modern history had its dawn in the fifteenth century. It was then that the civilized peoples of the earth awoke from the lethargic sleep of the middle ages and began their new career of advancement and enlargement. The WORLD was then Europe and a portion of western Asia and of northern Africa, and a more or less shadowy knowledge of southern and eastern Asia. In addition to this there were Norse traditions and Icelandic records of a "Vinland" far away to the west. The great Mediterranean sea lay in the midst of these lands and was the great highway of communication. Of nationality there was little; of ocean commerce, but little; of religious toleration, none; of political liberty, the barest beginning. What civilization there was, was found in the lands of southern and western Europe.

ENGLAND had risen on her foundation of Saxon, Angle, Danish and Norman blood and her people were already grappling with the questions of civil and religious liberty they were destined to solve. In 1485 began the reign of the house of Tudor which during the hundred years then beginning brought England to the front rank of European nations.

FRANCE issued from her hundred years' war with England great in her monarchical absolutism and great in her place among nations. Thanks to the inspiration of the dreaming shepherd girl from Dom Remy, she had pushed back the English to their island home, leaving them only a finger hold on Calais.

VENICE and GENOA from opposite sides of the Italian peninsula ruled the commerce of the Mediterranean and grew rich and prosperous from their trade in the silks and spices of the Orient.

PORTUGAL took the lead in pushing back the borders of the unknown and after finding an ocean way to the east held the trade in oriental products. A century later the NETHERLANDS usurped this profitable commerce and Portugal herself become the prey of Spain.

GERMANY, SWEDEN and RUSSIA far away on the northern borders exerted little if any influence beyond their own limits. SPAIN was many separate kingdoms which were finally united into one powerful nation which stood pre-eminent for a hundred years.

English, French, Germans, Italians, Spaniards—warring among themselves and with each other—against these, thus discordant, came the half barbarous hordes of Moslem, swarming across Gibraltar and across the Bosphorus into Europe. Spain had been in the hands of the Moors for over seven hundred years, but it was only in 1453 that Constantinople fell and with it the hopes of Christendom. The Moslem advance from the east was checked by the brave resistance of the Hungarians. In the west their advance had been checked by the battle of Tours and their frontier gradually pushed back. The land so recovered became several independent kingdoms, chief of which

were Arragon and Castile-Leon. When these two kingdoms were united by the marriage of Ferdinand, king of Arragon, and Isabella, queen of Castile and Leon, the Moors held only the southern part of the peninsula under the name of the Kingdom of Granada. After ten years of war, Granada fell, and Europe, safe from the threatened dominance of Asiatic barbarism, was ready to look across unknown seas to unknown lands where, in coming years, there was to be a new nation with a government of the people, for the people and by the people.

THE GROWTH OF ENGLISH POLITICAL LIBERTY.

The foundation of English liberty is that "Great Charter" which the barons of England forced King John to grant them in 1215. The principal features of this document are the provisions that none should be deprived of liberty or property except by the judgment of his equals, and that no taxes should be levied except by consent of the National Council. Edward I in 1297 confirmed the Magna Charta, especially binding himself not to tax his subjects without their consent. This was the beginning of that long struggle to establish the principle that "Taxation without representation is tyranny." During the fourteenth century the commons began to assemble separately from the House of Peers and by 1407 obtained the exclusive right of levying all taxes. This made the King dependent for his revenue on the direct representatives of the people, and thereafter many valuable rights of the people were acknowledged by the King in exchange for a grant of taxes. During the Tudor reigns the power of parliament weakened, the monarchs of that house set-

ting up practically a "personal monarchy" superior to both parliament and constitution.

With the later years of Elizabeth's reign, the power of Parliament revived, reaching such a height in the next fifty years as to compass the complete overthrow of royal prerogative along with the execution of the King. After eleven years of commonwealth rule, royal power was again established. A second Charles and a second James brought matters to another crisis, and the bloodless revolution of 1688 showed the will of the people as expressed through Parliament to be stronger than the monarch's sovereignty. With the coming William and Mary a convention parliament drew up a Declaration of Right—not a PETITION of Right such as had been presented to Charles sixty years before and granted by him but a DECLARATION of Right which within a year was expanded and formulated as a Bill of Rights. This formed the third great charter of English liberty. George III attempted to restore personal monarchy but his attempt failed and severed from England her most valuable colonial possessions. By bribery and corruption George III succeeded in raising a party of "King's Friends," or Tories, sufficiently strong to overcome the "Old Whigs" led by Burke and Fox and the "New Whigs" under the leadership of Pitt. But the measures thus carried by the King in spite of powerful opposition in parliament brought on the "King's war" which resulted in American independence on one side of the Atlantic and on the other in the overthrow of royal tyranny and the triumph of the constitution. The American revolution was thus a part and parcel of the great struggle through six centuries which at last gave political liberty to the English speaking people.

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